also likely to increase further by Rs. 700 crores in the current year.

(iii) Earnings are not fully meeting the proportionate targets so far. The Railways are also put to hardship because some of the powerhouses have not cleared their dues. Badarpur Thermal Power Station owes the Railways more than Rs. 1000 Cr.

(c) In order to improve the availability of funds, increased emphasis is being laid on revenue generation through better marketing efforts, private sector participation in Railway projects, and through measures like commercial exploitation of land and air-space, leasing of right of way for laying communication channels, etc. Government has also been approached for financial assistance. On the expenditure side, tight control is being kept in areas such as fuel and power consumption, contractual payments, overtime allowance etc. Austerity and economy measures are also being enforced in areas of hospitality, publicity, advertisements, seminars and workshops, contingent office expenses, travel etc.

Rangiya Division of N.E. Railway

1809. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the establishment of Rangia Division of N.E. Railways would be completed;

(b) what is the progress till now;

(c) which areas would be brought under this division; and

(d) whether the whole of Bongaigaon and New Bongaigaon areas would be included in this division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) The division has been planned to be set up in a phased manner over a period of five years. An Officer alongwith 2 group C and 2 group D staff have been positioned at Rangiya and other works of Rangiya Division are in progress.

(c) It is proposed to include:

Section	Divisionfrom
Rangiya-Murkongsleek	Alipurduar
New Bongaigaon-Rangiya-Kamakhya	Alipurduar
Baliapara-Bhalukpong	Alipurduar
Rangapara-Tezpur	Alipurduar
New Bongaigaon-Jogighopa	Alipurduar
Jogighopa-Kamakhya	Newline

(d) Yes, Sir.

New Railway Projects in NER

1810. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved some new railway projects in the country, particularly in the NER;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and railway-zone wise;

(c) the estimated cost of those projects, project-wise; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to implement the aforesaid projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (d) Details of new Railway projects sanctioned in current year's (1999-2000) Budget, including their location, cost and action taken by the Government are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

NER referred to in the question presumably means North Eastern Region. No new Railway project has been sanctioned in the North Eastern Region in the current year's (1999-2000) Budget.